



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**Boxing and Wrestling Commission**

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO THE COMMISSION

**January 13, 2015**  
**Minutes**

The District of Columbia Boxing and Wrestling Commission held its scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at 1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Washington, D.C. 20024.

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scottie Irving at 7:13 p.m. and attendance was taken.

Commission Members Present: Bryan Irving and Timothy Thomas.

Commission Members Absent: Sean Ponder.

Staff Present: Alfred Grant, Commission Boxing Coordinator and S. Skip Brown, Commission Administrator, of the Occupational and Professional Licensing Division and Kia Winston, Legal Advisor to the Commission.

Staff Members Absent: None.

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**Agenda Item: Comments from the Public and Guest Introductions**

1. 52<sup>nd</sup> World Boxing Council (WBC) Convention, Las Vegas, NV: Wayne Smith indicated that there was very good training. In particular, scoring techniques were discussed, where a judge should look at destruction, damage and domination elements, which would assist in scoring fights a lot quicker. Chief Referee Waleed stated that there were over 80 world champions were in attendance; WBC put on a great convention. It was surprising that it was not covered extensively. Some in attendance were Marvin Hagler, Sugar Ray Leonard, Roberto Duran, Tommy Hearns, Layla Ali and the list went on. It was a wonderful sight; and it was the first convention he attended that had so many champions to pay their respect to Mr. Jose Sulaiman. All the champions in attendance received a championship belt, which was amazing.



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2. Ricky Womack expressed appreciation and thanks for all that attended Potomac Valley Association (PVA) 2014 Awards Banquet. Especially, he thanked the DC Boxing and Wrestling Commission for all its support in 2014. Commission Administrator Brown read for the record, the Special Honoree certificate he received on behalf of the Commission.
3. Officials Training: January 10 2015: Commission Boxing Coordinator Grant indicated that the purpose of this training was to review the Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) rules, guidelines and changes, especially, since individuals have been expressing an interest in hosting MMA events in the city. Internationally recognized MMA Referee Fernando Yamasaki and his school conducted the training. The main point emphasized, was to inform the sanctioning organizations that contestants under 18 years of age will not be competing. Also, the Chief Judge, Chief Referee and Chief Inspector will be meeting with their officials at a later time to review their relative areas.

Chief Referee Waleed indicated that as a result of the discussion, there will be pre-event discussions in preparation for an event and debriefings after the event, to discuss areas to improve or to self-assess, while the event is still fresh.

Additionally, all that attended the training agreed with the conclusion of pre and post fight discussions. The exchange of perspectives, discussions on various topics and how to improve the Commission's operations during events was beneficial to all. Mr. Grant also stressed a key point of Master Fernando Yamasaki that what makes you a good MMA referee or judge is to continue to watch MMA events, which are televised each week.

**Agenda Item: Minutes**

Upon a motion duly made by Commissioner Thomas and properly seconded by Chairman Irving, the Commission unanimously voted to be approve the minutes.

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**Upcoming Events**

Chairman Irving announced the following upcoming event:

- January 17, 2015 Pro-Boxing Event: Gene Molovinsky-Keystone Boxing Promoter at the Convention Center. Mr. Grant stated that the Weigh-In will be Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm at the Convention Center Salon G. The uniform will be blue shirt & sports jacket.

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**Agenda Item: Old Business**

Commissioner Thomas announced the following items:

1. U.S. Junior Olympics: Marshall Cunningham stated that U.S. Junior Olympics is a developmental tournament for youth ages 8-16. We are Region II and will be hosting it this year. A request was sent to hotels whether they can host the tournament. It was sent via EventsDC and Bolling Air Force Base was contacted as well. What is needed is lodging for approximately 250 people and a venue to host the boxing each day; the date is May 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>. There will be a committee to assist in the implementation of the event. A point raised was to look at the colleges and universities, since they will be out of school at that time.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Thomas announced the following items:

1. PVA: Amateur Boxers Support
  - a. Uniforms: Mr. Grant indicated that the Commission would be purchasing uniforms for the amateur boxers and directed everyone to look at the samples that were on the table.
  - b. Membership: Mr. Brown stated that the Commission will be sponsoring the membership for amateur boxers starting this month. To be eligible, an amateur boxer needs to be a resident of the District of Columbia, under 18 and have a financial need.



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2. Upcoming Amateur Events: PVA Secretary Ricky Womack indicated that the local Golden Gloves begins the third week in February; the regional tournament will be the first week in April and the finals to follow.

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**COMMENTS**

Chairman Irving commented that the Commission will bring in security in for events, especially for professional events, which will be mandatory from this point on and be used to protect the ring and officials working in the corral. Mr. Brown added that in preparation for the January 17<sup>th</sup> event, there will be a production meeting and one of the main topics is the coordination between the promoter's security, the Convention Center's security, Metropolitan Police Department and the Commission's security.

Chairman Irving stated that in reviewing the minutes over the past year and last meeting, the Commission will continue to request that you, supporters of boxing, be a little bit more vocal to the Mayor's Office and the City Council about what we do with our budget. The Commission will continue to support amateur boxing, providing resources to amateur boxing in the city and making amateur boxing and boxing in general a priority. So we are looking to you to be vocal about the importance of boxing in the city. We at the Commission continue to invite to our events, the sitting mayor and the councilmember that have oversight of the Commission. So we have to place a high value on boxing in order for others to see that value.

Regarding a raise for officials, there has been only three or four emails in 2014 requesting a raise; but as a reminder, a committee should be set-up to look at what officials are getting paid through-out the country.

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**Agenda Item: Adjournment**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Irving, the Commission meeting was adjourned at [7:44 pm](#).

Respectfully submitted,

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Bryan Irving, Chairperson

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Date

Recorder: S. J. Brown  
Commission Administrator